

25 Mar-66

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Info. from

75,210 total confirmed strength

77,510 total confirmed, probable, &amp; possible.

75,210

118 total battalions

Of which:

31 PAVN

87 VC

OCE  
calls this  
the main  
force

Also:

181 separate companies

101 separate platoons

The SNIE  
referred to these  
troops as local  
~~regional~~  
forces(SNIE 10-12-65)  
(Annex A  
p. A4  
footnote)

Also:

103,000 guerrillas

17,600 Combat support troops

39,200 political cadres

{ Armed but  
require no  
outside logistic  
support

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The separate companies and platoons may require a small amount of outside logistic support, although they do not have the VC heavy weapons.

The combat support troops include 3 transportation battalions and some demolition units. They might require a small amount of outside logistic support. [redacted] thinks the trans. units might require some POL from outside sources.

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Assuming 500  
men/bn  
in VC forces  
87 x 500  
= 43,500


75,210  
16,280  

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58,930  
43,500  

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15,430

Total  
PAVN confirmed   
VC total  
VC in main force  
(87 battalions)  
VC in separate  
companies and platoons

or

Assuming 530  
men/bn in VC forces  
87 x 530  
= 46,110

75,210  
16,280  


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58,930  
46,110  

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12,820

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 estimates that all the PAVN battalions and most of the VC main force battalions are now equipped with the new weapons. (By "main force" he means the 87 VC battalions). However, back in January he told us only about 1/3 of the VC force had the new weapons. So this is a very tenuous estimate, to say the least.